



AUSTIN AREA BEGONIA SOCIETY

A Branch of the American Begonia Society

Website: http://www.kenfuchs42.net/aabs_index.html



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NEWSLETTER

JULY 2024

Nelda Moore, Ken Fuchs, Editors

NEXT MEETING

Sunday, July 28 2 P.M.

Zilker Botanical Garden Center
2022 Barton Springs Road
Austin, TX 78746

HYBRIDIZER FREDA HOLLEY



Freda Holley at the 2014 SWR-ABS Get-Together, Shreveport

At the July 28 meeting, there will be a discussion about a Plant Swap for the August meeting. Bring a begonia or one of those companion plants when you



B. 'Gideon' - 2000 thick stem

When a begonia hybridizer moves throughout the Southwest Region and eventually lands on top of the first mountain of the Boston chain of the Ozarks at 2000 feet in Arkansas, she is close to heaven where begonias flourish and produce seeds in this wonderful world. Freda Holley, who is now a member of the Austin Area Begonia Society, still uses these seeds and has used them for over twenty years even when a species can tolerate heat and humidity, like B. 'Miss Louisiana.'



B. Holley's Blues - 2000 rhizomatous

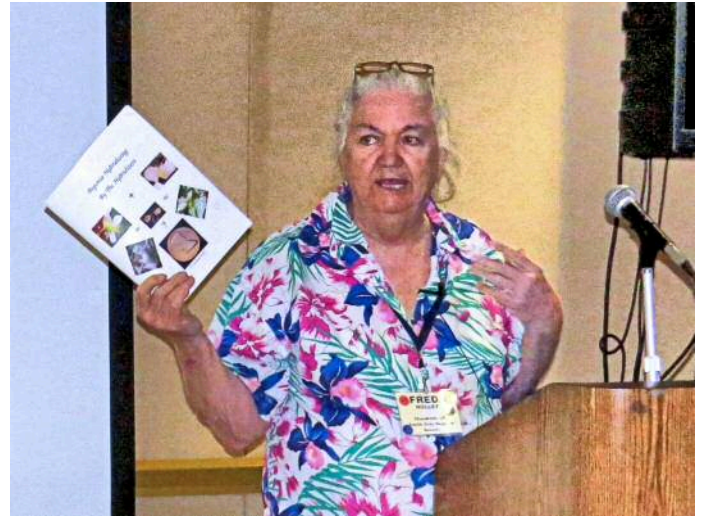


B. 'Miss Louisiana' - 2011 Rex Cultorum



B. 'Holley's Falcon' - 2003 cane-like

Some of her hybrids include B. 'Alley Cat,' a rhizomatous, B. 'Almost True,' a cane, B. 'Caliph,' a superba cane, B. 'Dickens,' a shrub, B. 'Dovecot,' a semperflorens, B. 'Freda's Mystery,' an upright rhizomatous, and B. 'Gideon,' a thick stem. These are only a few of the deeply loved begonias she has created.



Freda Holley with one of her books at the 2013 ABS Convention, Austin



B. 'Caliph' - 2003 cane-like superba



B. 'Dovecot' - 2000 shrub-like



B. 'Freda's Mystery' - 2015 rhizomatous

Some others are B. 'Holley's Beauty,' B. 'Holley's Blues,' B. 'Holley's Dark Night,' a cane, B. 'Holley's Falcon,' B. 'Holley's Gem,' B. 'Holley's Green Giant,' B. 'Holley's Heartfelt,' B. 'Holley's Heron,' B. 'Holley's Skyscraper.' Then there are many hybridized in Louisiana, some with names of birds until 15 years later she ends as of today with a waltz and B. 'Miss Louisiana.'

As Mrs. Holley tours the alphabet for names, she endures the sea with B. 'Sea Breeze,' 'Sea Mist,' 'Seabrook,' a town in Texas, and B. 'Seafarer.'

In all, the online International Database of the BEGONIACEAE (<http://ibegonias.filemakerstudio.com.au>) lists 125 named cultivars originated by Freda Holley.

Not only has Mrs. Holley been extremely busy

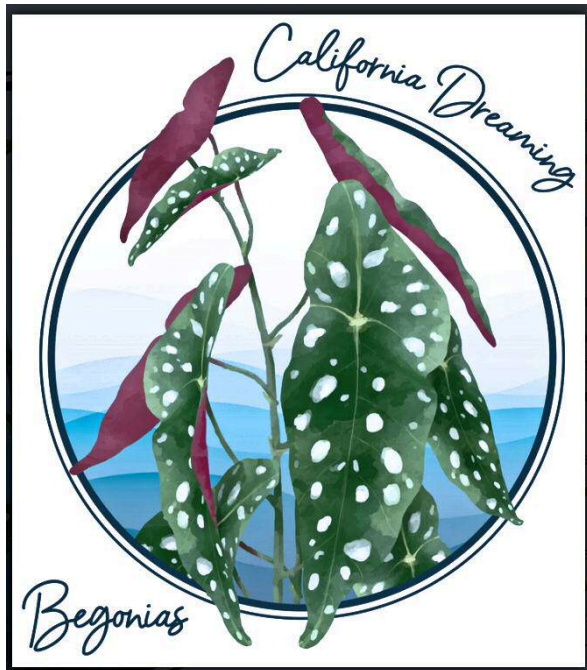


B. Emerald of Siam - 2018 rhizomatous

with the care of begonias, she has also served as officer and editor. She has written papers and books. Often she has been a speaker as she serves us today. Her publications are a joy to study. The Holley Family, R.L., her husband, her son Rick and his wife Syria, all assist her and listen attentively to her as she speaks during the meetings. The room is so quiet as everyone leans on her every word.



Freda Holley with Bobbie Price at the 2019 SWR-ABS Get-Together, Austin



"California Dreaming" invites you to Long Beach to see tuberous begonias as well as many beautifully grown begonias in outside gardens. This national convention features outstanding gardens, the Getty Center and Gardens, as well as Roger's Gardens and Sherman Gardens. On August 20 there will be a tour of private gardens that you do not want to miss. Their Plant Sale will be from 7 to 10 P.M. on August 23. Then the Saturday Banquet for \$70 will be a fun time with friends.

Registration forms are online (<https://www.begonias.org/2024-abs-convention-california-dreaming>); complete the 3 pages and send a check payable to the Palo Verdes Begonia Society to Kay Anders at 2536 Monterey Peninsula, Corona, California 92882.

Staybridge Suites and Holiday Inn at Long Beach Airport are located at 2680 Lakewood Blvd and 2640 N. Lakewood Blvd in Long Beach, California 90815

This convention begins on August 20 and that date will be here soon.

MINUTES OF THE JUNE 23, 2024 MEETING OF THE AUSTIN AREA BEGONIA SOCIETY

Austin Area Begonia Society met June 23, 2024, at 2 P.M. in the Zilker Botanical Garden Auditorium with 22 present: **Curtiss Aman, Charlotte Boyle, Jamie Branen, Doug Byrom, Vickey Cole, Frank Dizenzo, Jim Estes, Joan Estes, Erin Guerra, Michael Hernandez, Freda Holley, R. L. Holley, Rick Holley, Syria Holley, Jackie Johnson, Jim Landers, Annalaye Mercadel, Nelda Moore, Carol Orosco, Troy Richardson, Geneva Townsend, and Danielle Velasquez.**

Jim Landers collected money for the raffle that included begonias, pixie bougainvillea, Indian rose. Begonias came from the Violet Barn, Harmony, and Steve's Leaves.

Doug also created a terrarium when a person purchased two begonias to plant.

Doug will have begonias to show during the next meeting on July 28. Bring your appetite since snacks are always on the table for you, tea and water are the refreshments, and if you do not bring something, you are welcome to partake of the food.

Freda Holley brought several companion plants to show and tell about since begonias and each plant serve as houseplants.

The next meeting will be in the auditorium on July 28.

Respectfully submitted,
Nelda Moore, Secretary

AABS MEETING JUNE 23, 2024





GOOD GOLLY, MORE HOLLEY!



B. 'Holley's Beauty' - 2004 rhizomatous



B. 'Seabrook' - 2012 rhizomatous



B. 'Holley's Heartfelt' - 2000 cane-like



B. 'Holley's Green Giant' - 2000 rhizomatous



B. Holley's Heron' - 2000 shrub-like

NELDA'S COCONUT CAKE

Select a white cake mix, follow directions on the package, and add some coconut to the batter. Bake at 350 degrees for about 25 or 30 minutes until done. Punch holes in the warm cake with a fork. Then pour Cream of coconut over the cake. When cold, use Cool Whip over the cake and decorate with coconut. Refrigerate. Yum!!